

Cont A1
4. (Amended) The air-permeable filter for an ink cartridge according to claim 1, wherein said porous material comprises polytetrafluoroethylene and said air-permeable substrate comprises a ultrahigh molecular weight polyethylene.

Sub. Br
5. (Amended) An ink cartridge comprising:
a case for receiving an ink;
at least one air vent in said case; and
an air-permeable filter provided in said at least one air vent, said air-permeable filter comprising:
a laminate comprising:
at least one porous material layer comprising at least one resin selected from the group consisting of fluororesin and polyolefin resin; and
at least one air-permeable substrate layer having a tensile strength of 1 MPa or more, and having an outer surface bonded to said at least one porous material layer.

6. (Amended) The air-permeable filter for an ink cartridge according to claim 1, wherein the tensile strength of the air-permeable substrate is from 1 MPa to 1,500 MPa.

7. (Amended) The air-permeable filter for an ink cartridge according to claim 6, wherein the tensile strength of the air-permeable substrate is from 3 MPa to 500 MPa.

Sub. B3
8. (Amended) The air-permeable filter for an ink cartridge according to claim 2, wherein the Gurley number of the air-permeable filter is from 0.1 sec/100 ml to 300 sec/100 ml.

9. (Amended) The air-permeable filter for an ink cartridge according to claim 8, wherein the Gurley number of the air-permeable filter is from 0.5 sec/100 ml to 100 sec/100 ml.

10. (Amended) The air-permeable filter for an ink cartridge according to claim 1, wherein the average diameter of the pores in the porous material is 10 μ m or less.

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A1*
11. (Amended) The air-permeable filter for an ink cartridge according to claim 10, wherein the average diameter of the pores in the porous material is from 0.01 μm to 5 μm .
12. (Amended) The air-permeable filter for an ink cartridge according to claim 1, wherein the thickness of the porous material is 2 μm or more.
13. (Amended) The air-permeable filter for an ink cartridge according to claim 12, wherein the thickness of the porous material is from 10 μm to 1,000 μm .
14. (Amended) The air-permeable filter for an ink cartridge according to claim 4, wherein the viscometric average molecular weight of the ultrahigh molecular weight polyethylene is 300,000 or more.
15. (Amended) The air-permeable filter for an ink cartridge according to claim 14, wherein the viscometric average molecular weight of the ultrahigh molecular weight polyethylene is from 500,000 to 10,000,000.
16. (Amended) The ink cartridge according to claim 5, wherein the porous material of the air-permeable filter faces an inner space of the ink cartridge.

Please add the following new claims:

- A2
Sub. B4*
- 17. An air-permeable filter comprising:
at least one porous material layer comprising at least one of fluoro-resin and polyolefin resin; and
at least one air-permeable substrate layer having a tensile strength of 1 MPa or more, and having an outer surface bonded to said at least one porous material layer.
18. The air-permeable filter according to claim 17, wherein said air-permeable substrate layer comprises ultrahigh molecular weight polyethylene.

Sub. B 5 19. The air-permeable filter according to claim 17, wherein a Gurley number of the air-permeable filter is less than 100 sec/100 ml.

20. The air-permeable filter according to claim 17, wherein said at least one porous material layer is water-repellent and oil-repellent.

21. The air-permeable filter according to claim 17, wherein said at least one air-permeable substrate layer is water-repellent and oil-repellent.

22. The air-permeable filter according to claim 17, wherein said at least one porous material layer comprises two porous material layers, and wherein said at least one air-permeable substrate layer is formed between said two porous material layers. - -

IN THE ABSTRACT:

Please amend the Abstract as shown on the following page: